

Claims

1. A set of a four of teatcup liners (4, 5) for a milking member including a claw (1) and four teatcups (2) to be
5 attached to a respective teat of an animal to be milked, each teatcup liner (4, 5) having a liner portion (8) adapted to be comprised in one of said teatcups (2) and a conduit portion (5) adapted to extend between the respective teatcup and the claw, wherein the conduit portion (9) of each
10 teatcup liner has at least one property influencing the operation of the teatcup liner during milking,
characterised in that said property of the conduit portion (9) of a first pair of the four teatcup liners (4) differs in a predetermined manner from said property of a second
15 pair of the four teatcup liners (5).

2. The set according to claim 1, characterised in that the first pair of said teatcup liners (4) is adapted to be attached to the rear teats of the animal and the second pair
20 of said teatcup liners (5) is adapted to be attached to the forward teats of the animal.

3. The set according to any one of claims 1 and 2, characterised in that said property includes at least one of
25 the length of the conduit portion (9), the flexibility of the conduit portion (9) and the straightness of the conduit portion (9).

4. The set according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that said property includes the length of
30 the conduit portion (9), wherein the length of the first pair differs from the length of the second pair by a predetermined distance (14).

35 5. The set according to claim 4, characterised in that the predetermined distance (14) corresponds to the length

difference between the rear teats and the forward teats of the animal.

6. The set according to claim 5, characterised in the
5 length of the first pair is shorter than the length of the second pair.

7. The set according to any one of the preceding claims,
10 characterised in that said property includes the flexibility of the conduit portion (9), wherein the flexibility of the first pair differs from the flexibility of the second pair by a predetermined value.

8. The set according to claim 7, characterised in that the
15 flexibility of the first pair is higher than the flexibility of the second pair.

9. The set according to any one of the preceding claims,
20 characterised in that said property includes the straightness of the conduit portion (9), wherein the straightness of the first pair differs from the straightness of the second pair by a predetermined value.

10. The set according to claim 9, characterised in that the
25 straightness of the second pair is higher than the straightness of the first pair.

11. The set according to claim 10, characterised in that
30 each conduit portion (9) of the first pair of teatcups liners (4) has a slightly S-like curvature in such a way that the distance between the conduit portions (9) at the upper end in the proximity of the teatcup (2) is shorter than at the lower end in the proximity of the claw (1).

12. The set according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that each teatcup liner (4, 5) is one moulded piece.

5 13. The set according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the set includes a member (20) for keeping the teatcup liners (4, 5) together prior to the mounting of the liners in the milking member.

10 14. A milking member including a claw (1), four teatcups (2) and a set of a four of teatcup liners (4, 5) each teatcup liner (4, 5) having a liner portion (8) comprised in one of said teatcups (2) and a conduit portion (9) extending between the respective teatcup (2) and the claw (1), wherein
15 the conduit portion (9) of each teatcup (4, 5) has at least one property influencing the operation of the teatcup liner during milking,
characterised in that said property of a first pair of the four teatcup liners (4) differs in a predetermined manner
20 from said property of a second pair of the four teatcup liners (5).

15. The milking member according to claim 14, characterised in that the first pair of said teatcup liners (4) is adapted
25 to be attached to the rear teats of the animal and the second pair of said teatcup liners (5) is adapted to be attached to the forward teats of the animal.

16. The milking member according to any one of claims 14
30 and 15, characterised in that said property includes at least one of the length of the conduit portion (9), the flexibility of the conduit portion (9) and the straightness of the conduit portion (9).

35 17. The milking member according to any one of claims 14 to 16, characterised in that said property includes the length

of the conduit portion (9), wherein the length of the first pair differs from the length of the second pair by a predetermined distance (14).

5 18. The milking member according to claim 17, characterised in that the predetermined distance (14) corresponds to the length difference between the rear teats and the forward teats of the animal.

10 19. The milking member according to claim 18, characterised in the length of the first pair is shorter than the length of the second pair.

15 20. The milking member according to any one of claims 14 to 19, characterised in that said property includes the flexibility of the conduit portion (9), wherein the flexibility of the first pair differs from the flexibility of the second pair by a predetermined value.

20 21. The milking member according to claim 20, characterised in that the flexibility of the first pair is higher than the flexibility of the second pair.

25 22. The milking member according to any one of claims 14 to 21, characterised in that said property includes the straightness of the conduit portion (9), wherein the straightness of the first pair differs from the straightness of the second pair by a predetermined value.

30 23. The milking member according to claim 22, characterised in that the straightness of the second pair is higher than the straightness of the first pair.

35 24. The milking member according to claim 23, characterised in that each conduit portion of the first pair of teatcup liners (4) has a slightly S-like curvature in such a way

that the distance between the conduit portions (9) at the upper end in the proximity of the teatcup (2) is shorter than at the lower end in the proximity of the claw (1).

- 5 25. The milking member according to any one of claims 14 to 24, characterised in that each teatcup liner (4, 5) is one moulded piece.